

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re U.S. Patent Application of** )  
 )  
**MUROTANI et al.** )  
 )  
**Application Number: To be assigned** )  
 )  
**Filed: Concurrently Herewith** )  
 )  
**For: DISK ARRAY APPARATUS AND DISK ARRAY** )  
 )  
**APPARATUS CONTROL METHOD** )  
 )  
**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. ASAM.0119** )

**Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231**

**REQUEST FOR PRIORITY  
UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 119  
AND THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Sir:

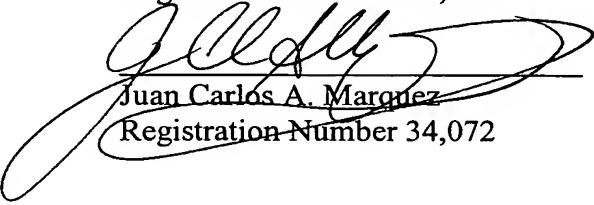
In the matter of the above-captioned application for a United States patent, notice is hereby given that the Applicant claims the priority date of February 16, 2004, the filing date of the corresponding Japanese patent application 2004-038169.

A certified copy of Japanese patent application 2004-038169, will be submitted as soon as it is received from Applicant. Acknowledgment of receipt of the certified copy is respectfully requested in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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